

Tyne Woody House
Cataloochee, North Carolina
Great Smoky Mountains National Park

HABS No. NC-5

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REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS
PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey

TYNE WOODY HOUSE
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Cataloochee, North Carolina

HABS
NC

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Owner: U. S. Government

Date of Erection: 1893

Builder: Jack Woody

Present Condition: Neglected

Materials of Construction: Stone chimney and foundation, timber
superstructure.

Additional Data: As follows -

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Abstracts of title made by the North Carolina Park Commission while acquiring land for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park show that the tract of land on which the Tyne Woody house stands was a part of State Grant No. 252, issued by the State of North Carolina to John Gray Blount on November 29, 1796. This grant contained 176,000 acres.

The last will and testament of John Gray Blount, dated March 25, 1823, appointed as his legal executors Thomas H. Blount, John Gray Blount and William C. Blount.

Under date of December 20, 1834, is a deed from Thomas H. Blount and William C. Blount, executors of the estate of John Gray Blount to Robert Love and James R. Love.

This tract of land is known locally as "Love's Speculation". From time to time James R. Love, acting with power of attorney for his father, sold portions of this tract.

Under date of October 5, 1881, James R. Love sold to Jonathan H. Woody fifty acres of land, lying on both sides of the ridge dividing Big Cataloochee from Little Cataloochee.

The following year, 1882, Jack E. Woody, son of Jonathan Woody, married and moved to this location. From his daughter, Milce Valentine Woody, we have received the following history of the building:-

For several years Jonathan Woody and his wife, Tyne, lived in an old log cabin located several hundred yards up the mountain from the present house. The existing house was built by Jack Woody in the fall of the year 1893, the family moving in about November.

Jack Woody was assisted in the building of this house by Tom Hannah, a brother of Mrs. Woody, and Daniel Cook, and possibly others whose names are not remembered.

Upon the death of Jack Woody, about 1900, his widow, Tyne, and their children continued to live in the house he had built. Some years later a frame house was built above the site of the original cabin. Here the family continued to live until the property

was purchased by the North Carolina Park Commission about 1930.

The most unusual feature of the Tyne Woody house is the construction of the kitchen wing and the big house as a unit. This is the only house in the Park constructed in this manner. The kitchen wing is not unusual but in every other house having a separate room for the kitchen, the kitchen and the big house are constructed as individual buildings so that there is a double wall between the kitchen and the big house. In the Tyne Woody house there is but a single-common wall as can be seen from the drawings and photographs.

The one remaining chimney shows unusually fine workmanship, for this region. This is one of several fine chimneys found in the Cataloochee area.

Though this is one of the largest log houses found in the Park, the only light and ventilation, except for the open doors, was supplied by two small openings in the north wall.

Charles S. Grossman

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8/28/57